

Section on Practical Pharmacy and Dispensing

Papers Presented at the Fifty-Ninth Convention

NOTE ON DISTILLED WATER.

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The process of producing distilled water of the U. S. P., if properly carried out, will produce an article answering all the requirements thereof.

In the conduct of certain other industries great quantities of condensed water are produced, and in at least one of them, namely, the artificial ice industry, the condensed water is collected. Owing to the pollution of water supplies there has sprung up a demand for sterile waters, and as a consequence we have both distilled water and distilled-water-ice on the market.

In some plants the steam, after having passed through the engines, is condensed, the cylinder oil carried over mechanically by the steam is separated, the water chilled and very carefully filtered, producing a perfectly transparent water. This product is sold as distilled water; it will answer the requirements of the U. S. P.

In one of the ice processes the above water is used and remains quiescent while being frozen in tanks, and any impurities in the waters are contained in the last portion frozen. Such ice is termed "can ice." In the center of the cake is a line showing any separated dissolved air, etc. This central portion at times contains ammonia; also, in some cases, oil. It is presumed that the oil was in pseudo solution in the water before freezing and during the process is separated out. It is very small in amount, but can be noticed by cutting out the core and permitting it to thaw out, when the oil will appear as an iridescent film.

The question arises: Are the requirements of the U. S. P. sufficient? The water mentioned above answers all the U. S. P. tests, yet it may contain oil, which can only be determined by freezing out the sample, when its presence or absence can be determined in the core or last portion frozen.

NOTES ON THREE U. S. P. FORMULAS.

THOMAS A. EGAN.

Elixir Aromaticum. This valuable and extensively used Elixir, made according to the U. S. P., with the following exceptions, will possess an elegant aroma.

Take of the oils the required amount to make compound spirit of orange, U. S. P., and dissolve them in the alcohol. Put this solution in a refrigerator